the MoWR in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the proposals of NPP and to give concrete shape to it. Based on various studies conducted, NWDA has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). Out of these, FRs of 14 links under Peninsular Component and 2 links (Indian Portion) under Himalayan Component have already been completed. Further, work of preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of one of the link in Peninsular Component Namely Ken-Betwa link has been taken up by NWDA.

(c) A provision of Rs. 220 Crore has been proposed in Eleventh plan for the works of balance FRs of links under NPP, Preparation of Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs)/FRs of intrastate links as proposed by NWDA. In addition to the above works, preparation of DPR of Ken-Betwa link & link & other priority links after the concurrence of concerned States etc. are to be carried out by NWDA.

Gosikhurd Irrigation Project

4300. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has urged the Central Government to include Gosikhurd Irrigation Project in the series of National Projects *vide* letter on 4 December, 2006;

(b) whether Central Government is empowered to declare the irrigation projects in the series of National Projects;

(c) whether the State Government has pointed out that early completion of Gosikhurd Irrigation Project is essential as the benefited areas are mostly tribal inhabited and for which irrigation facilities are not available;

(d) whether the Central Government has considered the request of the Maharashtra Government; and

(e) by when final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) On the request of State Government of Maharashtra and based on the selection criteria for National Projects finalized by the Central Government, Gosikhurd Project in Bhandara district of Maharashtra has been identified as a National Project by the Central Government.

Renovation of water bodies in Maharashtra

4301. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Maharashtra has submitted proposals for National Pilot Project for Repairs and Renovation of Water Bodies directly linked to agriculture in Nanded district and Yevatmal districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Water Resources approved the Scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of 32 water bodies in Beed district of Maharashtra under the pilot scheme *viz.* National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to agricultre.

Assistance under AIBP for Sardar Sarovar Project

4302. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) how much assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for Sardar Sarovar Project was allocated to the State Government of Gujarat for the years 2006-07 and 2007-08;

(b) whether it is a fact that sum of Rs. 644 crores has not been released to the State Government of Gujarat, so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when this amount will be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The Central Assistance released to Sardar Sarovar Project during 2006-07 and 2007-08 was Rs. 121.8885 crore and Rs. 585.72 crore respectively. For the year 2007-08, the 1st instalment of grant recommended under AIBP for the project was of Rs. 675.20 crore of which, Rs. 423.30 crore was released during 2007-08 and balance amount of Rs. 251.90 crore has been relased on 10th April, 2008.

Problems of Haj Pilgrims

4303. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what additional arrangements are being made by Air India to ensure that the Haj pilgrims do not face problems during the forthcoming Haj which they faced during the last pilgrimage;

(b) the details of the complaints received till date from various quarters in respect of Haj Pilgrimage;

(c) the details of the complaints pending at present; and

(d) by when all the complaints are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) As the capacity available with Air India is fully committed to the schedule operations and leased aircrafts of the appropriate type are not easily available, an offer has been made to Saudi Arabian Airlines to transport larger number of pilgrims during Haj 2008. Further, steps are being taken to streamline the system of carriage of personal baggage and Zam Zam water during Haj 2008.

(b) to (d) Complaints have been received from individual Pilgrims, State Haj Committee, Central Haj Committee and from individuals and organisations representing Haj pilgrims. The complaints mostly pertain to (i) Late receipt of baggage; (ii) Non-delivery of baggage;